



## Lincoln's Inn London

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results



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**Lincoln's Inn, London**  
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# Lincoln's Inn, London

## Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

### Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd. to undertake the post-excavation recording and assessment of an evaluation in Lincoln's Inn, in central London. Lincoln's Inn is one of four of the London Inns of Court which developed as establishments to study law. There is documentary evidence for Lincoln's Inn from 1422 but the Site is believed to have been in use by apprentices long before. Lincoln's Inn Fields developed from three fields between 1629 and 1638; prior to this the fields were used as pasture and occupation. More recently, underground tank and air raid shelters were constructed in 1940.

It was anticipated that the investigations would help to clarify the origins and development of the Law Courts in medieval and post-medieval/modern times. It was also hoped that evidence for earlier activity relating to Saxon and Romano-British periods might also be encountered. Lincoln's Inn Fields is located close to the known eastern boundary of Middle Saxon London and the western boundary of Roman London.

The investigations were subject to several constraining factors which prevented a full understanding of the nature and extent of the archaeological deposits in the area. Despite these limitations, a number of archaeological discoveries were made. These included the finding of residual later prehistoric and Romano-British pottery which attests to activity of this date in the area. Medieval layers and a possible robbed out medieval building were also encountered. Finds included two silver medieval coins, one dating to the reign of Elizabeth I.

Evidence for earlier structures predating the present Law Courts was also identified; however, only small parts of these buildings were revealed. Part of the temporary Victorian Law Court, built in 1841, was also noted. A World War II bunker was excavated under the lawn in Lincoln's Inn Fields.

The findings of the evaluation were relatively small-scale, and do not warrant detailed publication. Nevertheless, some structural remains were found which could relate to the medieval occupation of Lincoln's Inn, and the recovery of small quantities of prehistoric and Romano-British artefacts is of interest. A short summary of the results of the evaluation will be prepared for submission to *Transactions of the London & Middlesex Archaeological Society*, for inclusion in the annual round-up of archaeology in London. An OASIS form will be completed for the project.

# Lincoln's Inn, London

## Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

### Acknowledgements

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The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater, Emma Wood and Jimmy Adcock of GSB Prospection. The field survey was undertaken by Henry Chapman, University of Birmingham. The excavation strategy was devised by Hedley Swain (Museum of London). The on-site recording was co-ordinated by Catriona Gibson, with on-site finds processing by Hannah Spieler, both of Wessex Archaeology.

The excavation was undertaken by Time Team's retained archaeologists, Phil Harding (Wessex Archaeology), Raksha Dave, Kerry Ely, Faye Simpson, Brigid Gallagher, Ian Powlesland, Tracey Smith and Matt Williams, assisted by Neville Constantine, Richard Brooker, Paul Owens, Scarlett McGrail, Dave Saxby and Ruth Taylor, all of MoLAS (Museum of London Archaeology Service).

The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. This report was compiled by Catriona Gibson with specialist reports prepared by Lorraine Mephram (finds), Nicholas Cooke (coins), Jessica Grimm (animal bone) and Ruth Pelling (palaeoenvironmental evidence). The illustrations were prepared by Kenneth Lymer.

The post-excavation project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Lorraine Mephram. The work benefited from on-site discussion with Helen Geake (University of Cambridge) Phil Harding, and standing building specialist Richard Morriss.

# Lincoln's Inn, London

## Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

### 1 BACKGROUND

#### 1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological recording and post-excavation work on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at Lincoln's Inn, in central London (hereafter the 'Site') (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 This report documents the results of archaeological survey and evaluation undertaken by Time Team, and presents an assessment of the results of these works.

#### 1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The Site comprises two parts – Lincoln's Inn (Court) to the east and Lincoln's Inn Fields to the west. Lincoln's Inn lies in the heart of central London. The Inn occupies most of the rectangle formed by High Holborn on the north, Carey Street and the Royal Courts of Justice on the south, Chancery Lane on the east, and Lincoln's Inn Fields on the west.

1.2.2 Both sites are located approximately 1.5km north of the Thames (**Figure 1**), and while Lincoln's Inn lies in the Borough of Camden, Lincoln's Inn fields straddle the borough boundary between Camden and the City of Westminster. Lincoln's Inn is centred on NGR 530967 181404 and Lincoln's Inn Fields is centred on NGR 530794 181369, both at a height of approximately 20m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The areas selected for investigation during the project are currently under grass (lawn or park).

1.2.3 The sites are two rough rectangular blocks of land, together measuring approximately 8.5ha in size.

1.2.4 The underlying geology is London Clay capped by orange river terrace gravels laid down by the shifting course of the Thames during the Pleistocene period (SSEW 1983). The site lies close to the junction of the Lynch Hill and Hackney river terrace gravels laid down by the Thames during the glacial period. These deposits can be overlaid by sand, silt and clay commonly called 'brickearth' although recent watching briefs by MoLAS detected redeposited brickearth (Burton 2003).

#### 1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

##### *Prehistoric*

1.3.1 Several Palaeolithic hand axes have been found in the vicinity at Holborn, Kingsway and Chancery Lane (GLSMR refs. ML017751, ML017682, ML016891, ML017695). An Iron Age pot sherd was discovered as a stray find at Queen Street (GLSMR ref. ML067783) and this is the only find for this period within a 1.5km radius. Prehistoric finds for this area are rare and of a

scattered nature, and there is little evidence so far for widespread prehistoric occupation in the Lincoln's Inn area.

#### *Romano-British*

- 1.3.2 The site lies to the west of Roman London between two major roads exiting the city, Newgate (Fleet Street) and Ludgate (High Holborn). Excavations nearby at 32 Furnival Street and Barnard's Inn (Schofield and Maloney 1998) revealed evidence for gravel quarrying, possibly for use in the Roman road system. Lincoln's Inn itself is located outside of the walls of the main *Londinium* settlement and this probably accounts for the high concentration of burial activity in the immediate vicinity.
- 1.3.3 Cremation burials have been recorded at Holborn Station (GLSMR ref. ML069168) and Southampton buildings (GLSMR ref. ML017783). Large-scale excavations on part of the western Roman cemetery at St Bartholomew's Hospital (Bentley and Pritchard 1982) and by MoLAS at Barnard's Inn (Watson 2003) have revealed parts of a large cemetery dating from the late 1<sup>st</sup> century AD. The cemetery is generally thought to have developed alongside the Roman road between London and Silchester, with the site of Britannia House (LAARC site records OBL97) yielding the earliest dating evidence and thought to represent the eastern extent of the cemetery. This urban cemetery appears to have continued in use until the early 5<sup>th</sup> century AD (Schofield and Maloney 1998). At Took's Court, a Roman inhumation in a stone sarcophagus was found in 1952 (Museum of London File 58) and this is now thought to have been part of a larger cemetery following watching briefs in this area in 2001 and 2002 (LAARC site records FUN01 and CIR96).
- 1.3.4 There have also been a number of Roman spot finds in the Lincoln's Inn area. In 1750 an urn containing a coin hoard of hundreds of copper coins, mainly Victorianus and Tetricus (AD 269-74), was found in Lincoln's Inn Fields (GLSMR ref. MLO17776). In 1904, an Etruscan bronze statuette of a dancer, thought to date from the 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> century BC, was found near the north corner of the west front of Stone Buildings, south of the boundary wall abutting the buildings of Holborn (GLSMR ref. ML023579). The foot of a life-size Roman statue was also found during the Kingsway excavations (GLSMR ref. ML06175).

#### *Saxon*

- 1.3.5 After the decline of Roman *Londinium* in the 5<sup>th</sup> century, a separate Saxon settlement, *Lundenwic*, was set up in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> centuries on the western side of the Fleet valley in modern day Aldwych, the Strand and Covent Garden. This town was one of many flourishing trading centres and is thought to have covered approximately 60 hectares but to date it has not been mapped accurately.
- 1.3.6 Few Saxon objects have been recovered from the Roman walled city and any that have been found have been attributed to people visiting the ruins rather than to occupation. Cowie (2000) has suggested that the ruins of the Roman town would not have been suitable for the Saxon farming lifestyle and that the harbour area was a poor landing place for their need for a large trading site.
- 1.3.7 Evidence for a middle Saxon settlement, dating to the 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> centuries AD, has been discovered to the west of the Site between Kingsway and the



Strand (Cowie 2000). On the periphery of this settlement, two Saxon cemeteries have been partially revealed; one to the west at St Martin-in-the-Fields, and one to the north at Covent Garden, predominantly dating to the 7<sup>th</sup> century. However, at St Martin-in-the-Fields, a recent find of a sarcophagus containing a late Roman inhumation, dating to c. 410 AD, demonstrates that Roman (at least funerary) activity survived for a generation or more after *Londinium* had been abandoned. An early Saxon pot, dating to c. 500 AD, also came from this excavation, and implies that Saxon settlement may have existed in this area much earlier than previously believed. The known gap between the extent of Roman *Londinium* and Saxon *Lundenwic* may be less than previously thought ([http://www.molq.org.uk/English/NewsRoom/Archived07/St\\_Martins\\_release.html](http://www.molq.org.uk/English/NewsRoom/Archived07/St_Martins_release.html)).

- 1.3.8 Although to date there have been no significant Saxon finds at Lincoln's Inn Fields, its proximity to major Saxon sites could still make it a key area to further the understanding of this period of London history. Its potential is increased by the fact that the fields have not been extensively built on, and may preserve relatively well preserved archaeological deposits that may not have been substantially truncated.

*Medieval and post-medieval*

- 1.3.9 The main area of settlement returned to within the circuit of the Roman city walls during the 9<sup>th</sup> century and the area around Lincoln's Inn and Lincoln's Inn Fields became a suburb outside the main walled town throughout the medieval period. Several churches and religious foundations, such as the Old Temple Monastery in Chancery Lane, were located in this area. Industries, particularly polluting industries such as tanning and parchment manufacture, were situated outside the heavily populated city on the banks of the Thames and the Fleet (Burton 2003).

*Lincoln's Inn*

- 1.3.10 Lincoln's Inn is one of the four Inns of Court in London (the other three being Grays Inn, the Inner Temple and the Middle Temple), and can claim the oldest extant records, the 'Black Books' which record its principal activities from 1422 to the present day. These Inns developed as educational establishments in which young apprentices could study law, and they had the exclusive right to call lawyers to the Bar to act as advocates in the Royal Courts (Herber 1999, 68). Lincoln's Inn lies to the north of the Strand (and the two Temples) and to the south of Holborn (and Gray's Inn).
- 1.3.11 Lincoln's Inn is thought to have taken its name from Henry de Lacy, the third Earl of Lincoln, who died in 1311, although it is not certain whether he was the actual founder. His coat of arms is on the Gatehouse, but it is more likely that his Inn was located on Shoe Lane. An alternative theory is that Thomas de Lincoln, a serjeant-of law, may have founded a small Inn pre-1422 at Castle Yard, which then expanded to the present day Site when the Black Books were begun (Roxburgh 1963).
- 1.3.12 The land was originally part of the holdings of the see of the Bishop of Chichester, and an extravagant palace was built there before 1244 that included a hall, a chapel, a bakery, brewery and other buildings. Although the exact location of this building is not known, it is thought that it may partially lie under the existing Old Hall at Lincoln's Inn as a timber structure. Little is known about the layout of these buildings (Simpson 1928, 23).

- 1.3.13 The present day Lincoln's Inn stands on the west side of Chancery Lane. The Old Buildings are situated around an irregular quadrangle with the hall on the west side, the gatehouse to Chancery Lane on the east and the chapel on the north with groups of chambers extending to the south beyond the hall. The oldest surviving building is the Old Hall which was constructed between 1489 and 1492. The chambers at No. 18-20 Old Buildings date from 1524. No. 16 Old Buildings and 12 & 13 New Square were built c. 1534. No. 21-24 Old Buildings were rebuilt in 1609. The Chapel dates from 1623 and was considerably restored in 1685, and then later extended by an extra bay. It is recorded in the Black Books that the Old Chapel was still standing derelict when the new chapel was consecrated, so is unlikely to be beneath the present day one. New Square was built in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century and the top stories are an 18<sup>th</sup> century addition. In 1845 the New Hall and Library were added in elaborate Tudor style to the designs of Philip Hardwick, with additions to the library at the east end by Sir George Gilbert Scott in 1871-3.
- 1.3.14 Parts of the Inn were damaged during bombing raids in World War II. Extensive repairs had to be undertaken on the Old Buildings, the Stone Buildings, the Chapel and the Old Hall (Appendix of the Black Books, 301-2).
- 1.3.15 Famous past members of Lincoln's Inn include Thomas More, Oliver Cromwell, Pitt the Younger, Benjamin Disraeli, William Gladstone, Margaret Thatcher and Tony Blair.
- 1.3.16 Today Lincoln' Inn continues to train Barristers and call people to the Bar; the Inn itself contains 70 separate flats used as chambers by the residents.
- Lincoln's Inn Fields*
- 1.3.17 Lincoln's Inn Fields is currently the largest square in London, and in the past it was a place of public execution. During the Tudor (1485-1603) and Stuart (1603-1714) periods many religious martyrs and those suspected of treason met their ends here.
- 1.3.18 The square developed from three separate fields between 1629 and 1638 - Cup Field to the east, Purse Field to the west, and Fickett's Field to the south.
- 1.3.19 The history of these three fields is documented to some extent. During the reign of Edward II (1284-1327) Cup Field was thought to have been made up of 24 houses with 10 acres of arable land. The lands passed into the possession of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem, Clerkenwell, in 1431 and a century later formed two fields, Cup Field and Conynger Field, the latter eventually becoming part of Lincoln's Inn Fields.
- 1.3.20 Less is known about the early history of Fickett's Field and Purse Field, although the latter became part of the holdings of the Hospital of St Giles by the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. By the reign of Henry VIII (1509-1547) the history of the fields are easily traced through various deeds, and at one point Cup Field was leased by the Ship Inn and Purse Field was leased by The White Hart.
- 1.3.21 By 1537, both of the fields had reverted to the Crown and remained pasture grounds, occasionally used for public executions. In the early to mid 17<sup>th</sup>

century, the fields came under threat of development. In 1613, Charles Cornwalliss applied for a licence to build houses on the fields, but his licence was refused. In 1640, William Newton, a property developer, again attempted to build on the open space, but students of Lincoln's Inn and local residents petitioned against it. Although the sides of the fields were developed and houses were built, a promise was made that the land at the centre of Lincoln's Fields would remain a public park for ever, and today it still stands as the largest public square in London.

- 1.3.22 In 1666, after the Great Fire in London, Lincoln's Inn Fields was one of four places set apart for the deposit of people's goods under the protection of trained bands, and it is thought that people who had lost their homes to the fire also set up temporary camp here. Public hangings were still conducted in the Fields, and a number of marches and protests also took place there, including anti-Catholic uprisings, until the late 18<sup>th</sup> century.
- 1.3.23 Documentary evidence from the 18<sup>th</sup> century suggests that Lincoln's Inn Fields had fallen into disorder and was a place of lawlessness. Complaints were made about the state of the fields were made in the preamble to the House of Commons' Lincoln's Inn Fields Bill of 1735:
- 1.3.24 "the great Square, now called Lincoln's Inn Fields ... hath for some Years past lain waste and in great Disorder, whereby the same has become a Receptacle for Rubbish, Dirt and Nastiness of all Sorts ... but also for Want of proper Fences to enclose the same great Mischiefs have happened to many of His Majesty's Subjects going about their lawful Occasions, several of whom have been killed, and others maimed and hurt, by Horses which have been from Time to Time aired and rode in the said Fields; and by reason of the said Fields being kept open many wicked and disorderly Persons have frequented and met together therein, using unlawful Sports and Games, and drawing in and enticing young Persons into Gaming, Idleness and other vicious Courses; and Vagabonds, common Beggars, and other disorderly Persons resort therein, where many Robberies, Assaults, Outrages and Enormities have been and continually are committed."
- 1.3.25 The purpose of this Act was to tidy up, secure and enclose the fields. In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Fields were re-arranged as garden, the plan of which remains intact.
- 1.3.26 During World War II, in 1940, an underground tank for emergency water supplies was constructed at Lincoln's Inn Fields and subsequently an underground air raid shelter (Palmer 2007). It is unknown precisely in what area these features now lie.

#### **1.4 Previous Archaeological Investigations**

##### *Lincoln's Inn Fields*

- 1.4.1 A small watching brief by the Oxford Archaeological Unit in 1997 revealed evidence for a post-medieval well (SMR EL03888). More recently, a 2005 watching brief by MoLAS discovered the remains of a post-medieval rubbish pit (SMR EL06452)

##### *Lincoln's Inn*

- 1.4.2 In 1968, an area of the gatehouse within the Inn was excavated, after part of the inner court wing had been demolished for rebuilding. Some truncation of

the natural brickearth by building foundations was evident, but the remains of a hearth were identified, probably dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> century (SMR ML055895).

1.4.3 A watching brief in the gardens found evidence to suggest the demolition of a brick building in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century AD (SMR EL03891).

1.4.4 Prior to the construction of a new floor in the undercroft of the 17<sup>th</sup> century chapel in 1991, a short length of greensand and chalk wall was revealed, of probable medieval date (GLSMR ref. EL03887). Large quantities of chalk demolition rubble were also identified, probably coming from a medieval building. The earliest layer recorded was 1.4m below the present ground surface; a mid-orange clay silt.

## **2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **2.1 Introduction**

2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled (Videotext Communications 2008), providing full details of the research aims and methods. A brief summary is provided here.

2.1.2 The aim of the project was to characterise the nature and date of the Site and place it within its historical, geographical and archaeological context. Of particular interest is establishing and refining the chronology and phasing of the settlement.

### **2.2 Principal Aims**

2.2.1 Two separate sets of research aims were identified for Lincoln's Inn and Lincoln's Inn Fields.

2.2.2 The key questions posed for Lincoln's Inn were as follows:

- To what extent have archaeological levels been disturbed or truncated by modern buildings in this area?
- What is the nature and significance of surviving archaeological remains?
- What are the levels of natural deposits and how do these compare to adjacent sites at Lincoln's Inn?
- What is the earliest evidence of medieval occupation of the area?
- What evidence is there for later medieval activity, which may be associated with Lincoln's Inn?
- Is there any evidence for any pre-existing structures, mentioned in historical sources and shown on historical maps?
- Do the current buildings stand on the footprints of pre-existing structures?

2.2.3 The key questions for Lincoln's Inn Fields were as follows:

- What is the level of truncation caused by modern activity in the area?
- What is the nature and significance of surviving archaeological remains?

- What are the levels of natural deposits and how do these compare to adjacent sites?
- What is the earliest evidence for occupation of the site?
- Is there any evidence for Romano-British rural occupation, outside of the city walls?
- Is there any evidence for Saxon occupation close to the abandoned Roman *Londinium*?
- What is the earliest evidence for farming on the fields?
- Is there any evidence for medieval occupation on the fields which has not been documented?
- Is there any evidence for post-medieval structures within Lincoln's Inn Fields?
- Is there any archaeological evidence for the development of the gardens?
- Is there any evidence for World War II defences and shelters since lost from the historical record?

## **2.3 Research Agendas**

- 2.3.1 The project aims intended to address a number of topics relevant to Roman, Saxon and medieval research agendas.
- 2.3.2 These include refining the understanding of the Roman foundation of London and the management of countryside up to and during the period of the Boudican revolt. Further, it was hoped that the investigation would help to clarify the transition from the late Romano-British to early Saxon period, and whether any overlap or continuity may be identified between the two periods. This has been highlighted as a possibility following the results of MoLAS excavations in St Martin-in-the-Fields. Lincoln's Fields is located in this 'gap' area between Roman *Londinium* and Saxon *Lundenwic* and it was thought that the investigation might help to determine whether a real spatial break existed between the two periods of occupation, and, if so, what would be the possible implications for the shifting settlement patterns during these periods.
- 2.3.3 With regards to the medieval research agenda, it was hoped that the investigation would uncover archaeology to complement and support the documentary knowledge.

## **3 METHODS**

### **3.1 Constraining Factors**

- 3.1.1 Several constraining factors affected the evaluation, and influenced not only the location of trenches, but also their size and therefore depth. The principal constraining factor related to preservation orders on a large number of trees, particularly within the gardens of Lincoln's Inn itself, but also within Lincoln's Inn Fields. This meant that most trenches had to be small, and since all had to be placed at a distance of at least 15m from the boughs of the trees, this left very little space that could be investigated. As a result, only five trenches could be opened. Furthermore, because all the trenches within Lincoln's Inn had to be opened and closed by hand, they were small.

## **3.2 Geophysical Survey**

- 3.2.1 Prior to the excavation of evaluation trenches, a geophysical survey was carried out across the Site by GSB Prospection Ltd, in order to identify underlying features over which trenches should be targeted. Several instruments were used, comprising a Geoscan FM36/FM256 gradiometer, a Bartington Grad 601-2, and RM resistance meter and a Noggin Smartcart Pluss Ground Penetrating Radar.
- 3.2.2 The survey grid was set out by Dr Henry Chapman and tied in to the Ordnance Survey (OS) grid using a Trimble R8 Real Time Kinematic (RTK) GPS system.

## **3.3 Fieldwork Methods**

- 3.3.1 The project was carried out between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2008. The sites were selected for investigation after communication with Mr Peter Spooner, Estate Manager at Lincoln's Inn, with the approval of the Head Bencher.
- 3.3.2 All exposed archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system.
- 3.3.3 A full graphic archive was maintained. All features and archaeological deposits were hand-planned at an appropriate scale. Plans and sections were produced at a scale of 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, where appropriate, with reference to a site grid tied to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The limits of the excavation areas were surveyed using a Trimble real Time GPS system and Trimble Total Station.
- 3.3.4 All surveys, earthworks and geophysics, are compatible with each other. Surveys were related to the National Grid/Ordnance Datum by local control using the 1:25000 digital maps.
- 3.3.5 A full photographic record was maintained using digital cameras. The photographic record illustrates both the detail and the general context of the principal features, finds excavated, and the site as a whole.
- 3.3.6 All finds were retrieved and a metal detector was used on spoil from all trenches. Bulk environmental samples were taken from sealed archaeological contexts where appropriate.
- 3.3.7 Following the evaluation, all trenches were backfilled either by machine (at Lincoln's Inn Fields) or by hand (Lincoln's Inn) and all turf reinstated.
- 3.3.8 A Site code (LFI 08) was issued by the Museum of London prior to the commencement of works. Following fieldwork, the archive and all artefacts were transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury where they were processed and assessed for this report.

## 4 RESULTS

### 4.1 Geophysical Survey (Figure 2)

#### *Lincoln's Inn*

4.1.1 Difficulties were encountered in the courtyard owing to the number of services and other recent interventions, especially on the tarmac access road where little else could be identified with any certainty.

4.1.2 Over the grassed area, a number of responses were recorded that could possibly be service routes albeit potentially installed in antiquity; this area was the site of a hall only demolished in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. For this reason, anomalies recorded closest to the existing structure were classified as potential archaeology, whilst those further out were given a more ambiguous classification. High amplitude anomalies down the eastern edge of the grass are an effect of the curbing.

4.1.3 In the kitchen garden, strong anomalies were identified, and these were thought to represent service trenches (unmapped) or a previously unrecorded structure. A trench was located over the centre of this anomaly. East of this, trends may relate to former garden features and a potential sump or chamber; associated potential pipe routes are of uncertain date but could be contemporary with the sump.

#### *Lincoln's Inn Fields*

4.1.4 The data from this area showed intense magnetic disturbance which, owing to the history of the site, is understandable. In the north and west of the area, the data from this survey area are dominated by strong linear responses from subterranean concrete structures, the remnants of World War II air raid shelters. Rectilinear anomalies associated with the walls become apparent from around 0.6m and can be seen to extend down to beyond 1.5m. A service pipe can also be seen within the data on a north-west – south-east alignment. The widespread nature of these structures means that any responses seen in the shallowest slices will be related to the post-war reinstatement of the park grounds.

### 4.2 Evaluation Trenches

4.2.1 Trenches 1 and 2 were located in Lincoln's Inn, in the grassed part of the courtyard behind the Old Hall. Trench 3 was placed in the south-western corner of the Kitchen Garden (or Herb Garden) and Trenches 4 and 5 were opened on the grass in the north-east quadrant of Lincoln's Inn Fields. All trenches were located in accordance with the results of the geophysical survey

#### *Trench 1 (Figure 3, Plate 1)*

4.2.2 Trench 1 was located in the courtyard behind the Old Hall, in the flower bed immediately behind and to the east of it. A series of modern deposits (as indicated by the pottery) including imported garden soil (101), made ground (102) and demolition deposits (103 and 104) were removed to a depth of 0.8m before foundations for a brick-built structure were revealed, represented by one of the anomalies identified by the geophysics. The trench was subsequently extended into the flowerbed in an attempt to define these walls more clearly.

4.2.3 The main brick-built wall (111 with construction cut 121) was aligned north-south. Its foundations survived to three courses, and the wall was two courses wide. Two further walls abutted this wall to the west and curved slightly to form a brick-built drain or culvert (123). All finds from this structure and the layers above it were of post-medieval or modern (Victorian) date.

4.2.4 To the east of wall (111), a series of modern service pipes had disturbed any further archaeological deposits. It was decided to stop archaeological excavation at this point and record the Victorian brick foundations and preserve them *in situ*. Documentary and cartographic evidence suggested that these brick foundations probably formed part of the temporary brick courthouse constructed in 1841 in Lincoln's Inn.

***Trench 2 (Figure 3, Plate 2)***

4.2.5 Trench 2 was targeted over another geophysical anomaly in the lawn within the courtyard of the gatehouse building, and c. 6.3m to the north-east of Trench 1. Deposits similar to that encountered in Trench 1 were removed initially (201 - garden soil, 202 - made ground). Modern and post-medieval pottery was recovered from both these layers. A thin, white, crushed mortar deposit (203) was revealed beneath (202) at a depth of 0.45m. This layer sealed a compact consolidation layer constructed using small flint cobbles (204). This hard consolidation deposit may have been an informal metalled surface. Fragments of 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> century 'Tudor Green' pottery were recovered from this layer. This surface would originally have covered the full extent of the trench, but had been truncated in the northern half by two large later features.

4.2.6 Pit (205) was the latest in the sequence. It had been rapidly backfilled with a finds-rich dump deposit (206) that contained substantial quantities of bricks and tiles and fragments of pottery. The pottery included sherds of 'Tudor Green' bowls, dishes and cups and a sherd of late 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> century German (Cologne/Frechen) stoneware. Pit (205) cut the upper fills of a rectangular straight-sided cut (207), which measured at least 1.8m in length, 1m in width and 1.2m in depth, although its full extent was not revealed in the trench. The feature contained two backfill deposits (208 and 219). The lower deposit (219) contained stone rubble and mortar fragments, presumably demolition debris from an earlier building. The upper dump deposit (208) also contained demolition debris and a substantial part of a 'Tudor Green' jug. Worked stone from (208) included a window mullion, possibly originally from the earlier robbed-out stone structure. The vertical sides of pit (207) imply that the feature was rapidly backfilled soon after it was cut and the semi-complete 'Tudor Green' pot probably dates this feature quite accurately. Large quantities of stone rubble were also retrieved from the pit's upper fill, and this feature probably represents a robber cut that removed the stone foundations of a rather substantial earlier wall or structure. It is likely that the robber cut followed the original wall line exactly, and suggests that it was orientated exactly east-west.

4.2.7 Robber cut (207) had cut through earlier levels sealed by the cobbled surface (204). These included a series of demolition deposits (from earliest to latest these were 209, 210, 211 and 212). One sherd of medieval pottery (13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> century London-type ware) was retrieved from (210), but a sherd of 'Tudor Green' ware was also recovered. A small pit (213) was cut into layers (210) and (211). This feature had been truncated to the north by robber cut



(207) and also by pit (205). Its lower fill (214) contained a sherd of medieval pottery (13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> century Kingston-type ware).

- 4.2.8 The earliest deposit encountered in this trench (218) was sealed by layer (211). This was a sandy clay, well sorted layer that may represent an undisturbed subsoil. A small sherd of flint tempered prehistoric pottery came from this layer, probably Late Bronze Age in date.

*Trench 3 (Figure 3, Plate 3)*

- 4.2.9 Trench 3 was targeted on a geophysical anomaly in the south-western corner of the Kitchen Garden (or Tudor Herb Garden), c. 60m south of Trenches 1 and 2. Modern deposits were removed to a depth of 0.5m before any earlier structural evidence was revealed. Recent deposits included imported garden soil and turf (301), levelling and consolidation deposits (302 and 303) and a trample layer associated with probable kitchen waste (304). All finds associated with these horizons were of post-medieval or modern date, and included wig curlers, clay pipe fragments (c. 1610-1710), quantities of 'Tudor Green' ware, and later finewares including Chinese porcelain and bone china. A late 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> century decorative book clasp was recovered from topsoil (301). A silver coin was also retrieved from layer (303) - a medieval long cross penny. The coin was rather worn and is clearly residual in this context.

- 4.2.10 Beneath (304), a demolition spread (306) overlay a partly robbed out brick-built wall (305). This wall was revealed in the eastern part of the trench, and it was aligned roughly north-west – south-east. The wall lacked a construction cut but had been constructed in pre-floor packing layers. The lower two courses of the wall were stepped out by 0.15m, forming its foundations. Ten courses of this wall survived, sealed by white mortar, and it was two courses thick. Fragments of 'Tudor Green pottery' and other post-medieval finds were recovered from the layers associated with the wall. To the east, wall (305) was abutted by a brick-lined culvert (314). This was filled with a dark brown organic deposit that contained post-medieval pottery and animal bone. The culvert cut deposit (316) which represented the dumping of kitchen waste against wall (305). This deposit contained large quantities of animal bone, shell and post-medieval pottery.

- 4.2.11 To the west of the wall a series of dump deposits and metalised surfaces were encountered, built up against wall (305), and post-dating it. From latest to earliest these are as follows. Layer (307) was a compact metalised surface comprising small rounded flint cobbles and extending across the whole trench. It may represent a footpath associated with an earlier phase of the Kitchen Garden. Finds included a small copper alloy pin and sherds of post-medieval (late 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> century) Border Ware. A sequence of dump and demolition deposits underlay (307), including (309), (310), (311), (315) and (318). Quantities of post-medieval pottery were retrieved from all of these layers including Cologne/Frechen stoneware and 'Tudor Green' ware. Several of these layers were rich in demolition debris, including bricks and mortar, and quantities of animal bone were also recovered, possibly representing kitchen waste. Clay pipes from these layers dated from c. 1610-40.

- 4.2.12 The earliest demolition deposit (318) sealed a compact metalised surface (319), made from gravel pebbles. This surface was quite worn, and probably formed part of the floor contemporaneous with the structure represented by

wall (305), as it directly overlay the wall's foundations. The surface also overlay a consolidation layer (320), which was composed of compact redeposited clay natural. No finds were retrieved from either of these layers.

- 4.2.13 A gravel-rich deposit (321) lay beneath (320), and this may represent an earlier dump deposit. It contained quantities of shell, animal bone and several fragments of post-medieval 'Tudor Green' ware and slip-coated redware. A single abraded Romano-British sherd was also retrieved from this deposit which, although residual, is of some interest. In addition, a second silver coin was recovered, a sixpence of Elizabeth I struck in 1577, and its condition may imply that it not residual.
- 4.2.14 The earliest layer identified in Trench 3 was deposit (322). This may be an earlier subsoil and it contained a second sherd of Romano-British pottery alongside quantities of post-medieval 'Tudor Green' ware, and an early 16<sup>th</sup> century Nuremberg jetton. Three sherds from a medieval Kingston-type ware jar were also recovered from this layer. Although the Romano-British pottery is undoubtedly residual, its presence in this layer and that of the layer above raises the potential of some activity of this date in the vicinity.

*Trench 4 (Figure 3, Plates 4-5)*

- 4.2.15 Trench 4 was located over a geophysical anomaly in Lincoln's Inn Fields. A fairly deep sequence of modern overburden was encountered representing imported garden soil (401), beneath which lay two thick levelling and make-up layers prior to the construction of the lawn (402 and 403). A possible post-medieval dump layer (404) underlay these deposits, which was relatively rich in finds. Large numbers of metal finds were recovered from (401), including several coins and tokens (ranging from a very worn medieval silver half groat to a George VI three pence, and including seven lead tokens), copper alloy studs, buckles, buttons, pins, thimbles, a finger ring, studs and other fittings, lead shot, window came and a cloth seal, and iron nails.
- 4.2.16 A relatively sterile deposit (405) was encountered beneath (404), and this may represent a slow silting deposit or bedding layer. Beneath this, a fairly substantial dump deposit was revealed (406) possibly representing a demolition horizon, as large quantities of rubble and tile were contained within it, as well as post-medieval pottery. Deposit (406) sealed a compact and level bedding layer (407), which was cut by three post-holes (410, 412 and 414). In all of these post-holes the posts appeared to have been burnt *in situ* (**Figure 3, Plate 5**), and contained burnt material set within a highly fired yellow clay packing deposit. However, an environmental sample taken from one of the 'posts' (417) contained very little charcoal (see below, **6.2.2**).
- 4.2.17 It is likely that the post-holes had been cut from a higher layer as they were quite truncated, but were only identified at this level. They may have formed part of the same structure, although in such a small excavation area it is impossible to know what kind of structure this would have been. They were set between 1m and 1.5m apart from each other. Only post-hole (410) was excavated. Deposit (407) contained large quantities of post-medieval pottery (16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> century) and the post-holes therefore must be of this date or later.
- 4.2.18 Layer (407) and an overlying and presumably redeposited brickearth layer (408) had been cut by a quarry hollow (422). Layer (408) contained some small quantities of post-medieval and medieval (London-type ware) pottery.

Similar quantities of both periods were noted, reflecting the mixed and disturbed nature of these deposits.

- 4.2.19 The small size of the trench means that it is difficult to know the exact form and size of quarry hollow (422), but it may have been roughly circular with a estimated diameter of approximately 3.5m, and was at least 0.55m deep, but undoubtedly originally considerably deeper. The hollow had been filled with a series of finds-rich dump deposits (415, 416, 420) interleaved with silting events. Finds included quantities of ceramic building material, shell, pottery, three copper alloy pins and a copper alloy button. Although a small quantity of post-medieval (16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> century) pottery was retrieved, the lowest excavated fill of the pit (420) produced sherds of Kingston-type ware, Hertfordshire/Limpsfield-type ware and Late London-type ware, all of medieval date, with just one sherd of 'Tudor Green'.

*Trench 5 (Figure 3, Plate 6)*

- 4.2.20 Trench 5 was relatively small in size and was located on the north-western lawn of Lincoln's Inn Fields, 40m to the north-west of Trench 4. It was targeted over a strong geophysical anomaly in the GPR survey, with a definite structural and linear form to it. The geophysical results implied that this was a World War II bomb shelter.
- 4.2.21 Just over 1m of deposits were removed prior to encountering the collapsed roof of this bunker structure. The upper three deposits (501, 502 and 503) were make-up and consolation layers associated with the creation of the lawn within Lincoln's Inn Fields. A mixture of modern and post-medieval pottery was recovered from (501), although a small, abraded medieval sherd was also noted. Beneath this, deposit (504) was a soft ashy grey dump deposit that had been used to infill the bunker. A lower layer of redeposited brickearth (505) had also been dumped as backfill within the bunker structure.
- 4.2.22 The trench exposed a small part of this shelter, although with the addition of the geophysical results it should be possible to provide a fairly firm plan of this structure. The bunker was located at a depth of 1.20m deep below the current topsoil, and the length exposed was 1.5m by 1.5m. The bunker was not bottomed because of safety issues and so its height is not known but it was filled with collapsed rubble. It was constructed of concrete which was 0.10m thick. The height of the arch of the bunker was 0.3m. The west face was cast in the ground with shuttering and the arches for the roof were pre-cast and dropped on to the roof. An electric cable was visible near the ceiling in the south-west corner of the bunker, to provide electricity and a phone cable into the bunker. Iron brackets on the west face possibly indicate steps into the bunker. Below these brackets a V-shaped scar indicates the former position of light fittings. A lead water-pipe was noted in the north-west corner.

## **5 FINDS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 Finds were recovered from all five of the trenches excavated, with most finds coming from Trenches 2, 3 and 4. The assemblage is largely of medieval to

post-medieval, with a small amount of prehistoric and Romano-British material, which occurred as redeposited finds.

- 5.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and totals by material type and by trench are presented in **Table 1**. Following quantification, all finds have been at least visually scanned, in order to ascertain their nature, probable date range, and condition. Spot dates have been recorded for datable material (pottery, ceramic building material). This information provides the basis for an assessment of the potential of the finds assemblage to contribute to an understanding of the Site, with particular reference to the medieval origins of Lincoln's Inn, and to any evidence for earlier activity prior to the medieval period.

## 5.2 Pottery

- 5.2.1 The small pottery assemblage includes material of prehistoric, Romano-British, medieval and post-medieval date, although the emphasis is on the early post-medieval period (15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> century). The assemblage has been quantified by ware type, using the London type series. Totals by ware type are given in **Table 2**.

### *Prehistoric*

- 5.2.2 Two sherds were identified as prehistoric. Both came from layer 218, and both are in a coarse, flint-tempered fabric characteristic of the post-Deverul-Rimbury ceramic tradition of the Late Bronze Age. Neither sherd is diagnostic of a specific vessel form.

### *Romano-British*

- 5.2.3 Two small sherds were recovered of Romano-British coarse greyware, from layers 321 and 322 respectively. Again, neither sherd is diagnostic, and neither can be dated more closely within the Romano-British period.

### *Medieval*

- 5.2.4 A relatively small proportion of the assemblage is of medieval date, and most of these sherds came from Trench 4. All the wares represented are of types well known in London, and derive from the major industries supplying the capital: whitewares from the Surrey/Hampshire border (KING, CBW, CHEA), London-type wares, with one known source in Woolwich (J. Cotter pers. comm.), Mill Green ware from south Essex (MG), and greywares of Limpsfield or south Hertfordshire type (SHER). Most of these wares appear to have been supplying glazed wares to the site, probably mostly jugs; the greywares are unglazed and could represent more utilitarian wares. The medieval element of the assemblage, however, is noticeably fragmentary and in small sherd sizes, with little clearly diagnostic material. The date range of the wares identified suggests that there was little activity on the Site before the 13<sup>th</sup> century.

### *Post-Medieval*

- 5.2.5 Post-medieval wares made up the majority of the assemblage. A range of ware types was identified, with a few wares clearly predominant. 'Tudor Green' ware (TUDG) accounts for just over half of the post-medieval total by sherd count; this ware type supplied the Site mainly with cups of various forms, and also with jugs, bowls and candlesticks, all at least partially green- or yellow-glazed. These forms are typical of the 'Tudor Green' repertoire of the late 15<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> century, and a number of such vessels, particularly small

jugs, probably used as drinking vessels, have previously been recorded in quantity from the Inns of Court (Matthews and Green 1969; Pearce 1992, 24). Later examples (16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> century) of the Surrey/Hampshire border post-medieval industry (BORD, RBOR) are also present; in contrast to the 'Tudor Green' wares these occur in utilitarian forms – pipkins, jars and a dish. Other red Border wares may remain unrecognised amongst the more broadly defined post-medieval redwares (PMR) which are also common amongst the assemblage, together with white-slipped redwares (PMSR); again these are largely in utilitarian forms (jars, handled jars, bowl, jugs, candlesticks, dripping dish).

5.2.6 Alongside these common wares, probably largely locally supplied, are a few regional wares from the 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> century (Metropolitan slipware, Midlands Purple ware, Staffordshire-type slipware and mottled ware), the ubiquitous German raeren and Cologne/Frechen stonewares, spanning the period from the late 15<sup>th</sup> through to the early 18<sup>th</sup> century (RAER, KOL/FREC), and a few English stonewares (ENGS), including a *Bartmann* jug, possibly a Fulham product.

5.2.7 Tinglazed earthenwares (TGW) are relatively well represented; these include polychrome 'display' wares of the later 17<sup>th</sup> century (including a 'blue dash' dish) as well as later utilitarian forms, and two wall tiles. Also present is a single sherd from an imported Italian tinglazed vessel, possibly an albarello or drug jar.

5.2.8 From the early to mid 18<sup>th</sup> century there are a few sherds of white salt glaze (SWSG), agate ware (AGAT) and imported porcelain (CHPO), followed by creamware, and finally refined redwares and whitewares from the modern period.

### **5.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)**

5.3.1 This category comprises fragments of roof tiles, floor tiles and brick. Roof tile makes up the largest part of the assemblage, and these consist mostly of flat (peg) tiles, of both medieval and post-medieval date. There are also a few fragments of curved tile, including one possible crested piece (demolition deposit 104), and a pantile (levelling deposit 302).

5.3.2 Of the bricks recovered, two (from wall 305) are complete (with dimensions of 220 x 100 x 50mm), one a 'special' with one long edge rounded. No other complete lengths are present, but brick widths range from 100 to 110mm, and thicknesses from 40mm to 60mm. A few fragments have surface vitrification. Only two obviously modern examples, from contexts 102 and 501) are frogged and stamped; otherwise, form and dimensions suggest that most bricks are of earlier post-medieval date (c. 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries).

5.3.3 There are a small number of floor tiles. All of these are plain and most are unglazed; two are white-slipped (robber trench 207). One tile from robber trench 207 is complete (55mm square). There are also two modern, glazed wall tiles (layers 403, 504).

#### **5.4 Wall Plaster and Mortar**

- 5.4.1 Other building material is present in the form of wall plaster and mortar. None of this material came from *in situ* structural elements, and most instead derived from demolition deposits (e.g. layers 206, 315).

#### **5.5 Clay Pipes and Wig Curlers**

- 5.5.1 The clay pipes consist largely of plain stem fragments, but there are 32 bowls sufficiently complete to enable dating (following Grove 1984); these are summarised in **Table 3**. Bowl dates range from c. 1580-1610 to c. 1680-1710; these were distributed between Trenches 3, 4 and 5, with none from Trench 1, and only one late (19<sup>th</sup> century or later) decorated bowl from Trench 2. None of the datable bowls carries a maker's mark, but marks were noted on two heels and one stem. One heel (Trench 4 topsoil) bears initials in relief either side (?R/A), while the second (layer 303) bears an incuse mark on the underside (a monogram B). One stem (layer 302) is stamped CORK.
- 5.5.2 In addition, two pipeclay wig curlers were recovered, both from Trench 3.

#### **5.6 Stone**

- 5.6.1 All of the stone comprises building material, and this includes roofing slate, and fragments of greensand and fine-grained limestone. Two slabs, possibly from flooring, one possible ashlar, and two possible mouldings (one with a window rebate) were recognised in the fine-grained limestone, but there were no complete pieces.

#### **5.6.2 Worked and Burnt Flint**

- 5.6.3 Four pieces of worked flint were recovered, three waste flakes and one core. These are not chronologically distinctive pieces, but are broadly indicative of prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the Site. Three pieces of burnt, unworked flint could also be of similar prehistoric date, although this material type is intrinsically undatable. All this material occurred residually in medieval or post-medieval contexts.

#### **5.6.4 Glass**

- 5.6.5 The glass includes both window and vessel glass, and two objects (bead, marble). The window glass includes some thin-walled, degraded fragments, with surface oxidation, typical of the early post-medieval period; fragments from layer (210) are particularly badly degraded, almost to devitrification, and could be of medieval date. At least two early post-medieval fragments come from diamond-shaped quarries, and have grozed edges (robber trench 207, demolition deposit 209). Most of the window glass, however, is clearly of modern date.
- 5.6.6 Vessel glass includes fragments of wine bottles of late 17<sup>th</sup>/early 18<sup>th</sup> century type, although only one fragment is diagnostic to a specific type – a base fragment from an 'onion' bottle (c. 1680-1730) from layer (302). There is also one phial base of 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> century date from Trench 4 topsoil. Most of the vessel glass, however, is of modern date, and includes a complete, small bottle in blue glass from layer (303).

- 5.6.7 A small, globular bead in translucent blue glass came from Trench 2 topsoil, and is likely to be of post-medieval date. The marble came from Trench 4 topsoil.

## 5.7 Metalwork

- 5.7.1 Metalwork includes coins and tokens, as well as objects of copper alloy, lead and iron.

### *Coins and tokens*

- 5.7.2 Twenty-four silver, copper alloy and lead coins and tokens were recovered. All of these date to the medieval, post-medieval or modern periods. In general the coins are in poor condition, with many showing signs of both of corrosion and wear.

- 5.7.3 The earliest coin from the site is a heavily worn, silver long cross penny of the medieval period (layer 303). This is too worn to be closely dated, although the quatrefoil in the centre of the long cross appears on coins from the reign of Edward II, and long cross pennies continued to be issued until late in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. A second silver coin, a six pence of Elizabeth I struck in 1577, was recovered from layer 321 in the same trench. Three further silver coins were recovered. These comprise two sixpences, of George V and VI respectively (Trench 4 topsoil, and layer 504 within World War II bunker 506), whilst the third (also from Trench 4 topsoil) is a badly worn silver medieval half groat.

- 5.7.4 Twelve are copper alloy issues. The earliest is a Nuremberg jetton of the first half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, from layer 322. Four date to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and all came from Trench 4 topsoil. The first is a half penny of Charles II struck in AD 1673. Two more coins from the same context are farthings of William III (minted between AD 1695 and 1700 and in 1697 respectively). The fourth is a 17<sup>th</sup> century (unidentified) trader's token.

- 5.7.5 Three coins are from the 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Two (both from Trench 4 topsoil) are badly corroded and abraded half pennies of the 18<sup>th</sup> century or early 19<sup>th</sup> century, while the third (layer 102) is a half penny of George III (1760-1820).

- 5.7.6 The final four comprise a three pence of George VI, struck in AD 1943 (Trench 4 topsoil), and three illegible coins or tokens (topsoil in Trenches 2 and 4, layer 302).

- 5.7.7 Seven items are lead tokens. These tokens were first made in the late medieval period, and continued to be made and circulated until the 17<sup>th</sup> century; a number have been found in London (Egan 2005, 167-72). They are frequently crudely made, and the designs are not always decipherable – at least two of the items from Lincoln's Inn are not identified with any high degree of certainty. One example seen here carries the initials WS on one side and a five-petalled floral motif on the other; a second bears the initials HS (or SH) within a pelleted border; both these were from Trench 4 topsoil). None appear to belong to the 'cross-and-pellet' type that formed the earliest (medieval) token issues.

- 5.7.8 The majority of the coins and tokens from the site were recovered from Trench 4 (Lincoln's Inn Fields), and many were unstratified. As a group they

indicate continued coin use on the site from the medieval period onwards, whilst some may also be useful in dating some of the stratified layers encountered.

#### *Copper Alloy*

- 5.7.9 Other copper alloy objects include personal items in the form of buckles (seven), buttons (nine), a pair of cuff-links, a finger ring, lace tags (five), pins (12) and thimbles (five). All of these objects are of post-medieval date, and most came from topsoil contexts, with the exception of one button (quarry pit 422), four lace tags (demolition deposits 209 and 315), and seven pins (layer 210, surface 307, layer 407, quarry pit 422). Fixtures and fittings include a furniture handle and a key plate (both from Trench 4 topsoil), and 13 small, domed studs or tacks, all from topsoil contexts in Trenches 3 and 4. The key plate is of late 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century date (Allcock and Hall 1994, 34). In addition, miscellaneous small fittings, mounts and clasps amount to ten objects, of which the only closely identifiable object is a book clasp from Trench 3 topsoil, of late 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> century date, decorated with punched fleur-de-lys motifs within a rocker arm ornamented border; one end is broken (Margeson 1993, no. 452).
- 5.7.10 Miscellaneous identifiable objects, all modern, comprise five printing-type letters, and a name and address tag (for Grosvenor Road S1).
- 5.7.11 Remaining objects comprise various small fragments of sheet, wire and rod, and unidentifiable lumps, all of unknown date and function.

#### *Lead*

- 5.7.12 Identifiable lead objects comprise two buttons, eight fragments of window came, five shot (both musket and pistol), a cloth seal, and two modern fittings. The remainder consists of waste fragments and offcuts. Nearly all of the lead objects came from topsoil contexts, with the exception of the cloth seal (demolition layer 315) and a strip fragment (504).

#### *Iron*

- 5.7.13 Nails make up just under half of the total iron assemblage (27 examples), and some other objects are also likely to be structural in function. One horseshoe fragment and a buckle were also identified, both from Trench 4 topsoil.

### **5.8 Animal Bone**

- 5.8.1 A total of 286 bones of mammals, fish and birds was hand-recovered from the Site. Conjoining fragments that were demonstrably from the same bone were counted as one bone in order to minimise distortion (so totals do not correspond to the raw fragment counts in **Table 1**). No fragments were recorded as 'medium mammal' or 'large mammal'; these were instead consigned to the unidentified category.
- 5.8.2 Most bone fragments were in good condition, with a total of 87% bones identifiable to species. At 2%, the number of loose teeth is low; this seems to be related to the absence of jaws in the assemblage and thus cannot be used to assess the level of reworking. Gnawing marks made by dogs were seen on 7% of the bones and some scavenger bias can therefore be assumed. Only one bone showed signs of contact with fire and the burning of bone waste or their use as fuel can largely be excluded.



#### *Animal husbandry*

- 5.8.3 The material included horse (n=1), cattle (36%), sheep/goat (45%), pig (5%), deer (n=3; all post-cranial) and bird (7%). The bird bones consisted mainly of domestic fowl. Rabbit bones were seen in layers 109, 322, 403 and 415, Trench 3 topsoil, pit 213, and drain 317. Since their remains did not differ in colour and preservation from the rest of the bone, they are likely not intrusive. Cat bones were found in layers 322 and 404. Cod bones were found in layer 304 and wall 305. The latter also contained a flatfish vertebra.
- 5.8.4 In total, 77 bones could be aged to provide insight in the population structure of the animals. Layers 321, 322 and 404 contained the remains of neonate cattle. This might illustrate local breeding (Reichstein 1994) and/or a taste for veal. A total of 41 bones could be measured to provide insight into the phenotype of the Lincolns Inn animals during the medieval and post-medieval period. Layer 109 contained a complete sheep radius with a GL of 147 mm, giving a withers height of 59 cm (Teichert 1975). This is a normal value for the medieval period or later.

#### *Consumption and deposition*

- 5.8.5 Although the assemblage is only small, the absence of certain elements like the head and an overrepresentation of ribs indicate that we are not dealing with the primary butchery site. Most animal bones probably represent kitchen waste. Butchery marks were seen on 10% of the bones and were made by knives and cleavers.
- 5.8.6 The assemblage also contained two pieces of worked bone. Layer 403 contained a fragment of the proximal part of a cattle metatarsus which had been sawn off. This represents typical comb-making debris. Layer 404 contained a sawn piece of the shaft of a long bone of a large mammal.

### **5.9 Marine Shell**

- 5.9.1 This consisted entirely of oyster shell, and included both left and right valves, i.e. both preparation and consumption waste. The shell occurred only in small quantities; no major dumps were encountered. This category also included a small mother-of-pearl button from World War II bunker 506.

### **5.10 Other Finds**

- 5.10.1 Other finds comprise small quantities of fired clay (unknown date and function) and ironworking slag, and a single modern jet bead (layer 404).

### **5.11 Potential and recommendations**

- 5.11.1 The evaluation produced a relatively small assemblage, dominated by post-medieval material. Much of the material came from topsoil or demolition contexts, i.e. the stratigraphic integrity of the assemblage is low. There are no large, well stratified groups from layers of cut features.
- 5.11.2 The presence of prehistoric and Romano-British material is of interest, but is of insufficient quantity or range to enable fuller discussion of the nature of activity on or close to the Site at these periods.

- 5.11.3 Medieval material is likewise relatively limited in scale and range, and much of it appears to be redeposited in later contexts, although some possible *in situ* material was encountered.
- 5.11.4 Overall, the range of material recovered is as expected for a site of this period and in this location, and numerous parallels can be found in published assemblages from London.
- 5.11.5 Identifications have already been recorded for objects, pottery types (using the London type series) and animal bone species, as well as spot dates for datable finds (pottery, coins). No further analysis is proposed.

## **6 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMARY**

### **6.1 Introduction**

- 6.1.1 Four bulk samples of between 100 grams and 10 litres, one from Trench 3 and three from Trench 4, were processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals. Features sampled comprised a culvert (314), a burnt post (417), a post-hole (410) and finds/bone-rich layer (407). The deposits from which the samples were taken were considered to be post-medieval or medieval in date. The intention was to recover useful biological information to assist in the interpretation of the features on the site and shed light on the occupational activity of the site.
- 6.1.2 The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh and the residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2 mm, 1 mm and 0.5 mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. A 1 litre sub-sample of the culvert (314) was first processed for waterlogged plant remains. As no such remains were present, 10 litres were processed as a bulk sample.
- 6.1.3 The flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope and presence of charred remains quantified (**Table 4**), to record the preservation and nature of the charred plant and charcoal remains.

### **6.2 Results**

- 6.2.1 The samples consisted almost entirely of coal, occasional charcoal and black silty material which may include coal and charcoal dust. The flots were generally blackened with fragments of highly vitrified charcoal and clinker or metallic residue. One possible charred grain and a fragment of charred hazelnut shell (*Corylus avellana*), both recovered from the finds rich layer (407) were the only identifiable plant remains noted. Small quantities of charcoal were noted in the flots. Rare waterlogged or long lasting seeds of fig (*Ficus carica*) and bramble/raspberry (*Rubus* sp.) were present in the culvert (314), as well as fragments of leaf and a single seed of swine-cress (*Coronopus* sp.). This suggests that some water-logging of deposits in this feature may have occurred although the density of material was too low to be detected in the 1 litre sub-sample. Fig and bramble/raspberry seeds are commonly encountered in sewage deposits, thus raising the possibility that sewage was emptied into the culvert. Swine-cress is typical of disturbed, wet muddy ground such as trodden gateways.

- 6.2.2 Generally the material present in all four samples is characteristic of waste of an unspecified industrial process or burning event involving probably quite high levels of heat. The level of destruction is such that no useful indication of occupation activities can be derived from the samples. The deposit taken from the presumed post burnt *in situ* in post-hole (410) produced very little charcoal and is thought to consist of charcoal dust and silt only. The post-packing around it (409) consists of similar material and as in common with the other samples from the site consists largely of clinker, coal and possible charcoal dust and silt.

### **6.3 Potential and recommendations**

- 6.3.1 The samples have no further potential, and no further work is proposed.

## **7 DISCUSSION**

### **7.1 Introduction**

- 7.1.1 The archaeological investigation at Lincoln's Inn was partly successful in its stated aims of characterising the nature and date of the underlying archaeological remains. It was able to demonstrate that parts of the Site had been subject to later truncation and disturbance, as would be expected in an urban setting. However, it is feasible that lower-lying earlier deposits may survive relatively intact.

- 7.1.2 In none of the trenches investigated was natural geology (brickearth) encountered. It is likely that in several of the trenches, significant archaeological deposits and structures still exist, sealed under deeper horizons. Thus the evaluation was not able to investigate the complete stratigraphic profile of archaeological deposits in Lincoln's Inn.

- 7.1.3 The investigation did indicate that earlier buildings survive under the present structures, although they have been disturbed to some extent. Tantalising evidence of later prehistoric and Romano-British activity is also suggested from the recovery of a small number of pottery sherds of these dates from trenches in Lincoln's Inn Court. Activity of later prehistoric and Romano-British date may survive in earlier levels, and the pottery adds to the known distribution of finds spots in this part of London.

### **7.2 Constraining Factors**

- 7.2.1 Several constraints prevented a fuller understanding of the nature, date and depth of archaeological horizons present at Lincoln's Inn. In particular, the Preservation Order on many of the surrounding trees meant that only a small number of trenches could be opened and these had to be small in size, several no larger than test-pits. It was only possible to step the trenches in Lincoln's Fields, although Trench 2 in the Courtyard was shored to allow excavation to continue deeper. The other trenches could only be excavated to a safe depth of 1.2m.

- 7.2.2 The trenches were opened up over lawn areas, which had been established in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries through the construction of make-up and levelling layers. A minimum of 0.5-0.6m (and in some cases 1.2m) of

modern overburden had to be removed prior to any earlier archaeology being encountered.

- 7.2.3 Small 'keyhole' excavation areas do not readily permit a comprehensive understanding of underlying deposits, especially considering the complex nature of the deep urban stratigraphy encountered. Furthermore, because of the consecutive occupation of this site over hundreds of years, it is not surprising that many of the earlier historical layers had been truncated and disturbed by the later buildings constructed on the site. The presence of earlier material, particularly of medieval date, in later layers provides an indication of the extent of this disturbance.

### 7.3 Overview

- 7.3.1 In spite of the limitations encountered during this investigation, several interesting discoveries were made that provide a clearer understanding of the nature of activity on this Site over a lengthy time frame. These will be discussed from earliest to latest below.

- 7.3.2 Although only a small sherd of late prehistoric pottery (probably Late Bronze Age) was found residually within an early deposit in the courtyard (Trench 1) its presence may imply some activity of this date in the wider environs. Considering the small area excavated, it is possible that further evidence of prehistoric activity may lie in earlier undisturbed levels. The only other find in a 1.5km radius is a single Iron Age pot sherd from Queen Street, and this adds to the limited evidence available for the later prehistoric period in this part of London.

- 7.3.3 Two sherds of Romano-British pottery were retrieved, again residually, from the earlier levels of the trench excavated in the Kitchen Garden. Lincoln's Inn is located outside of the walls of the main *Londinium* settlement, and most Romano-British activity in this area relates to burials. The Romano-British pottery from Lincoln's Inn was not *in situ*, and it is impossible to understand its original context. However, its presence may attest to activity of a non-funerary nature in the immediate vicinity. Again considering the small size of the trench, it is likely that more Romano-British material may be present in this part of the Site. Further investigation could extend our understanding of activity of this date and perhaps the extent of occupation, and the boundary between Roman *Londinium* and Saxon *Lundenwic*.

- 7.3.4 No finds or activity relating to the Saxon period were encountered during this investigation. Until fairly recently the Saxon period in London was fairly poorly understood (e.g. Biddle and Hudson 1973). However, discoveries made in the last 25 years have furthered our understanding of this period markedly (e.g. Cowie 2000, 175). Some of the recently discovered sites fairly close to Lincoln's Inn include Arundel House, St Bride's, Exeter Street, Cowcross Street and St John's Square. To the south-west of Lincoln's Inn Fields, the crescent of Aldwych, Southampton Row and Kingsway have Saxon ancestry. Traces of settlement have been found to the east of the Aldwych, including a hoard of Viking coins.

- 7.3.5 Although no Saxon evidence was encountered at Lincoln's Inn, this need not mean that none was present in the area, given the small nature of the investigation and the fact that early archaeological horizons were not

investigated. The possibility that Romano-British and Saxon areas of activity do overlap should not be discounted.

- 7.3.6 The presence of a substantial (albeit robbed out) east-west aligned stone wall in the courtyard of Lincoln's Inn (Trench 2) implies that a large building was originally present in this area. A stone mullion was found in the backfill of the robber cut, probably relating to the original structure. Small quantities of medieval pottery were retrieved from earlier levels associated with this robbed out wall. It is unlikely that this structure formed part of the early medieval palace of the Bishop of Chichester believed to have been built in this part of the Site (see above, **1.3.12**), although it may have formed one of the earlier medieval law court buildings. The upper layers overlying the robbed out structure contained large quantities of building rubble and suggest the demolition of a substantial building – possibly that of the old medieval hall. Cartographic evidence suggests that this old hall would have been aligned north-south and would have stood at right angles to the present Old Hall. Documentary evidence indicates that the medieval hall was pulled down in 1492 and it is feasible that the demolition rubble encountered in this trench relates to this event.
- 7.3.7 Evidence for possible medieval activity was also revealed in the kitchen garden, where some of the earlier levels excavated produced medieval pottery and two silver medieval coins. The Kitchen or Herb Garden is documented to mark the location of the earliest part of the Inn (Helen Geake, pers. comm.), and the medieval finds found here may be associated with this early activity.
- 7.3.8 Most of the activity in this area relates to post-medieval phases and at least two earlier phases of the garden were identified, as well as part of a previously undocumented post-medieval building. The large quantity of fineware pottery (including 'Tudor Green'), in association with other artefacts (such as wig curlers) indicates the dumping of waste from the adjacent law court buildings in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 7.3.9 It was hoped that walls relating to the possible earlier palace might be found in the courtyard. However the brick foundations found in the lawn and flowerbed of Trench 1 relate to Victorian walls with an associated curving drain. Documentary research and cartographic regression were able to demonstrate that these walls formed part a building constructed in 1841, as a temporary structure after the Royal Law Courts had been burnt down. The structure existed for 40 years, and its foundations likely truncate earlier levels that may have related to the earlier palace.
- 7.3.10 Some medieval pottery was retrieved from the quarry hollow in Trench 4, which may indicate activity of this date in the area. However, the material was dumped as refuse, and may imply rubbish disposal from the surrounding area and not actual medieval settlement in this area. Certainly no direct structural evidence was encountered to support the idea of medieval settlement in the Fields. The small post-holes found in this trench could have represented the remains of temporary structures erected during the mass evacuation of homeless people to the Fields after the Great Fire of London in 1666. Many refugees camped here for a short period of time. However, there is no direct dating evidence from the post-holes to support this idea

- 7.3.11 The latest archaeological feature recorded was the World War II air raid shelter in the north-western part of the Fields. This probably forms one of several buried under the lawn in the surrounding area. The depth at which this shelter was encountered implies that others would survive in a fairly good state of preservation.

## **8 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1.1 The findings of the evaluation were of necessity limited by the small scale of the excavated trenches, and do not warrant detailed publication. nevertheless, some structural remains were found which could relate to the medieval occupation of Lincoln's Inn, and the recovery of small quantities of prehistoric and Romano-British artefacts is of interest.
- 8.1.2 A short summary of the results of the evaluation will be prepared for submission to *Transactions of the London & Middlesex Archaeological Society*, for inclusion in the annual round-up of archaeology in London.

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**Table 1: Finds totals by material type and by trench (number / weight in grammes)**

<b>Material</b>	<b>Tr 1</b>	<b>Tr 2</b>	<b>Tr 3</b>	<b>Tr 4</b>	<b>Tr 5</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Pottery <i>Prehistoric Romano-British Medieval Post-Medieval</i>	52/381	254/1874 2/12	365/2827 -	312/4701 -	23/393 -	1006/10176 2/12
	-	-	2/2	-	-	2/2
	2/39	4/30	8/111	68/1019	1/5	83/1204
	50/342	248/1832	355/2714	244/3682	22/388	919/8958
Ceramic Building Material	29/7269	58/17957	90/12003	48/3957	9/1024	234/42210
Mortar	-	4/1006	12/308	-	-	16/1314
Wall Plaster	-	3/3248	9/411	-	-	12/3659
Fired Clay	-	-	35/21	-	-	35/21
Clay Pipe	1/1	16/54	57/309	116/612	13/95	203/1071
Wig curlers	-	-	2/18	-	-	2/18
Stone	2/4529	12/11655	1/23	2/289	4/205	21/16701
Worked Flint	1/23	2/6272	-	1/15	-	4/665
Burnt Flint	-	2/27	1/78	5/23	-	8/128
Glass	5/31	21/63	7/169	24/139	12/219	69/621
Slag	3/55	4/361	5/495	-	1/32	13/943
Metalwork (no. objects) <i>Coins &amp; Tokens Copper Alloy Lead Iron</i>	22	34	30	114	9	209
	1	2	4	12	1	20
	5	12	14	63	1	95
	4	2	6	25	1	38
	12	18	6	14	6	56
Jet (no. objects)	-	-	-	1	-	1
Worked Bone (no. objects)	-	-	-	1	-	1
Animal Bone	53/538	87/1426	104/1412	130	2/79	376/4731
Marine Shell	3/14	3/33	12/159	11/148	1/1	30/355

**Table 2: Pottery totals by ware type**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Ware type</b>	<b>Fabric code</b>	<b>No. sherds</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>
Prehistoric	Flint-tempered ware		2	12
Romano-British	RB greyware	SAND	2	2
Medieval	Cheam ware	CHEA	3	45
	Coarse Border Ware	CBW	1	3
	Kingston-type ware	KING	25	198
	Late London-type ware	LLON	41	747
	London-type ware	LOND	7	177
	Mill Green ware	MG	1	4
	S Herts/Limpsfield type greyware	SHER	5	30
	<b><i>Sub-total medieval</i></b>		<b>83</b>	<b>1204</b>
Post-medieval	Agate ware	AGAT	1	6
	Bone china	BONE	5	52
	Border ware	BORD	50	645
	Chinese porcelain	CHPO	1	4
	Cologne/Frechen stoneware	KOL/FREC	41	536
	Creamware	CREA	6	36
	Eng stoneware blacklead bottle	SBSL	6	105
	English porcelain	ENPO	3	268
	English stoneware	ENGS	7	101
	Italian tinglazed ware	ITG	1	20
	Metropolitan slipware	METS	4	102
	Midlands Purple	MPUR	5	139
	Misc. stoneware	-	1	8
	Post-med black-glazed ware	PMBL	5	62
	Post-med slip-coated redware	PMSR	21	490
	Post-medieval redware	PMR	145	2611
	Raeren stoneware	RAER	7	95
	Red Border ware	RBOR	5	212
	Refined redware	REFR	1	43
	Refined whiteware	REFW	42	362
	Staffordshire-type marbled slipware	SMSL	2	29
	Staffordshire-type mottled ware	SMot	1	15
	Tinglazed earthenware	TGW	49	423
	'Tudor Green'	TUDG	507	2566
	White saltglaze	SWSG	1	8
	Yellow ware	YELL	2	20
	<b><i>Sub-total post-medieval</i></b>		<b>919</b>	<b>8958</b>
	<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>		<b>1006</b>	<b>10176</b>

**Table 3: Clay pipe bowls**

<b>Bowl type*</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>No. bowls</b>
2	c. 1580-1610	1
5	c. 1610-40	2
6	c. 1610-40	1
8	c. 1610-40	7
9	c. 1640-60	5
10	c. 1640-60	5
13	c. 1660-80	3
16	c. 1660-80	1
18	c. 1660-80	4
19	c. 169001710	1
20	c. 1680-1710	1
21	c. 1680-1710	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>32</b>

\*following Grove 1984

**Table 4: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal**

Feature type/ no	Context	Sample	size litres	flot size		Charred plants	Flot		Notes	Residue
				ml	size		Waterlogged? Plants	Charcoal 4/2mm		Charcoal >5.6mm
Culvert/314	313	1	10	350	5	-	Ficus (A), Rubus (C), Coronopus (C)	10/10	Coal, clinker, leaves, blackened silt, vitrified frags, blackened worm capsules, smb.	-
Post/ 410	417	2	0.1	40	-	-		<1/<1	Silt lumps, charcoal dust?, clinker frags	-
Posthole/410	409	3	2	60	-	-	-	20/10	Coal/clinker, charcoal dust?	-
Layer	407	4	10	70	-	Barley (1); Hazelnut (1)			Coal, clinker, smb., fish	-

key: A\*\* = exceptional, A\* = 30+ items, A = ≥10 items, B = 9 - 5 items, C = < 5 items, smb = small mammal bones

## Appendix 1: Trench descriptions

bgl = below ground level

TRENCH 1 The Gatehouse			Type:	Hand excavated
Dimensions: 2.8m by 2.65m		Max. depth: 1.00m	Ground level: 19.65 aOD	
context	Description		depth	
101	<i>Garden Topsoil</i>	Dark greyish-brown loam with very rare gravel inclusions. Modern imported garden soil. Contains modern pottery, nails, CBM etc.	0-0.25m	
102	<i>Layer</i>	Brown silty clay made ground underlying garden topsoil.	0.25-0.6m	
103	<i>Layer</i>	Spread of white plaster mortar against eastern and central part of trench. Underlies (102) in places.	0.55-0.58m	
104	<i>Layer</i>	Demolition rubble deposit beneath (102) and (103). Dark grey brown loose silty gravel with large quantities of broken tile and brick, and fragments of chalk.	0.6-0.8m	
105	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Modern service trench (given a context number because residual finds came from its fill). Water pipe.</b>	<b>0.65m deep</b>	
106	<i>Fill</i>	Backfill of water pipe trench (105).	0.65m deep	
107	<i>Fill</i>	Backfill of Victorian service trench (108).	0.18m deep	
<b>108</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Victorian sewer trench cut for concrete pipe and backfill.</b>	<b>0.18m deep</b>	
109	<i>Layer</i>	Light grey brown coarse sandy silt with modern pottery fragments, CBM and mortar flecking. Demolition dump layer against wall (111) and underlies (102).	0.30m deep	
110	<i>Structure</i>	Light grey brown coarse sandy silt with modern pottery fragments, CBM and mortar flecking. Same as (109) but on western side of wall (111) and also truncated by (108). Demolition dump layer against wall (111) and underlies (102).	-	
111	<i>Layer</i>	Wall aligned roughly N-S. Two courses in thickness and survives three courses in depth. Red unfrogged brick bonded with creamy sandy mortar.	-	
112	<i>Layer</i>	Light cream-brown rubble and mortar – Used as infill between walls (115), (126) and (123).		
113	<i>Layer</i>	Friable light brown coarse sandy silt with frequent chalk fragments and flecks. Underlies dump layer (109) and forms a lower Tudor dump deposit.		
114	<i>Fill</i>	Backfill of construction cut (116), which contains wall (115). Underlies E-W wall (126).		
115	<i>Wall</i>	N-S aligned Victorian wall. Only partially revealed in trench but is 2 courses of brick in thickness and survives as seven courses in depth (with the lower two courses jutting out and forming the foundations). Very dark brown black silty loam with common large limestone blocks <0.10m in size. Deliberate dump of material which overlies (116) and is sealed by (104).	-	
<b>116</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Construction cut for wall (115).</b>	-	
117	<i>Layer</i>	Demolition dump. Truncated by wall construction cut (116).		
118	<i>Layer</i>	Light brown sandy silt demolition layer with frequent peg tile fragments. Underlies layer (113).		
119	<i>Layer</i>	Light brown gravelly silt with small rounded gravels. Consolidation layer layer underlying (118).		
120	<i>Layer</i>	Light-mid brown coarse sandy silt with frequent CBM and mortar flecking. Underlies (119).	-	
<b>121</b>	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Construction cut for wall (111). Cuts (104).</b>	-	
122	<i>Cut</i>	Construction cut for Victorian drain (123).		
123	<i>Structure</i>	Brick drain or possible culvert in cut (122).		
124	<i>Fill</i>	Backfill of construction cut (122).		
125	<i>Fill</i>	Backfill of wall construction cut (121).		
126	<i>Wall</i>	Short stretch of brick wall aligned W-E and abutting culvert (123).	-	
127	<i>Layer</i>	Rubble infill comprising mortar and subangular pebbles and CBM infilling gaps between wall (111) and culvert (123).		

TRENCH 2 The Gatehouse			Type:	Hand Excavated
Dimensions: 3.10m by 1.8 m		Max. depth: 1.58m	Ground level: 19.71m aOD	
context	Description		depth	
201	<i>Garden Topsoil</i>	Dark greyish-brown loam with very rare gravel inclusions. Modern imported garden soil. Fine and well sorted. Contains modern pottery, CBM etc.	0-0.20m	
202	<i>Layer</i>	Mid grey sandy silt with rare gravel inclusions. Made-ground deposit.	0.2-0.45m	
203	<i>Layer</i>	Thin layer of crushed white lime mortar overlying (204) and underlying (202). Contained 18 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> century brick and is likely a make-up layer prior to construction of garden/ levelling for turf.	0.45-0.52m	
204	<i>Layer</i>	Orange hard sandy gravel with frequent small-medium round flint pebbles. Compacted consolidation layer. Cut by pit (205) and robber cut (207).	0.15m thick	
<b>205</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Roughly oval pit cut of fairly recent date. Cuts (204) and fill of robber cut (207).</b>	<b>0.42m deep</b>	
206	<i>Fill</i>	Light greyish brown silty gravel with moderate subrounded flint pebbles. Contains tile and brick and represents a dump of material infilling pit (205).		
<b>207</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Linear NEE-SWW aligned cut with vertical sides. Not bottomed. Represents a robber trench that would have robbed out stone wall and foundations of earlier wall. Contained two backfilled deposits (208) and (219).</b>	<b>1.15m+ deep</b>	
208	<i>Fill</i>	Upper fill of robber trench (207). Creamish orange-brown backfill with occasional small subrounded pebbles. Finds included a substantial part of a well-made 'Tudor Green' jug or drinking vessel.	0.52m deep	
209	<i>Layer</i>	Dark grey brown silt layer mixed with red unfrogged brick fragments and red tile. Represents a rubble demolition deposit. Fairly horizontal and level.	0.05m thick	
210	<i>Make-up layer</i>	White mortar silty sand make-up layer. Very similar to (211).	0.10m thick	
211	<i>Make-up layer</i>	Cream silty sand make-up layer with frequent mortar fragments, although less than (210).	0.12m thick	
212	<i>Layer</i>	Mid brown sandy gravel with moderate abraded subrounded flint pebbles and occasional small chalk fragments. Large quantities of broken red roof tile and unfrogged brick. Layer not excavated (limit of excavation).		
213	<i>Cut</i>	Probably circular concave pit cut. Truncated to north by robber cut (207) and pit (205).	0.35m deep	
214	<i>Fill</i>	Light grey silt with a few small subrounded flint pebbles. Lower fill of pit (213).	0.05m thick	
215	<i>Fill</i>	Mid brown silty clay with moderate decayed white mortar, and broken tile and brick fragments. Contains reworked material from (210). Mainly a dump deposit containing demolition material and represents the upper truncated fill of pit (213).	0.30m thick	
<b>216</b>	<b><i>Cut</i></b>	<b>Possible post-hole not recorded when excavated. Probably roughly circular and c. 0.20m in diameter and c. 0.15m deep.</b>	<b>-</b>	
217	<i>Fill</i>	Fill of ?post-hole (216). Not recorded when excavated.		
218	<i>Layer</i>	Mid grey-brown sandy clay. Well sorted layer with no coarse inclusions. May represent an early subsoil.	0.50m+ thick	
219	<i>Fill</i>	Yellow-cream degraded sand mortar with occasional small stones and chalk fragments, Lower fill of robber trench (207).	0.68m thick	

TRENCH 3 The Kitchen Garden or Herb Garden		Type:	Hand Excavated
Dimensions: 2.8m by 0.9m		Max. depth: 1.40m	Ground level: 18.19m aOD
context	Description	depth	
301	<i>Garden Topsoil</i>	Dark brown silty loam with abundant small fragments of mortar and modern pottery and CBM.	
302	<i>Layer</i>	Dark brown silty sandy clay with clay and mortar lumps. Victorian levelling deposit.	
303	<i>Layer</i>	Very compacted ashy dark loam silt. Common charcoal and small rounded flint pebbles. Consolidation layer possibly following truncation of site to build garden.	
304	<i>Layer</i>	Very compacted dark grey silt, with abundant charcoal, common pottery and animal bone. Possibly a trample layer and pottery and bone may suggest kitchen waste.	
305	<i>Structure</i>	Partly robbed-out brick wall Two course thick and 10 course deep red brick (unfrogged) wall. The two lower courses are stepped out slightly as foundations. Of interest is the fact that this wall had no construction cut and was built without dug-in foundations, but had pre-floor packing layers rammed down instead. English bond. Cream-white sand mortar. Wall aligned roughly NW-SE. wall is part of a Tudor building pre-dating the existing square.	
306	<i>Layer</i>	Demolition dump of brick and mortar. Possibly associated with partial demolition of structure associated with (305).	
307	<i>Surface</i>	Compact level deposit of informal flint pebble metting. Single layer thick and quite worn and patchy in places. Possibly part of a yard or path surface. Overlies demolition layer (306).	
308	<i>VOID</i>	VOID context.	
309	<i>Layer</i>	Grey brown silty clay. One of the latest layers in a sequence of demolition deposits. Contains large quantities of CBM, pottery and abundant mortar fragments.	
310	<i>Layer</i>	Dark grey-brown silt with common pottery, CBM etc. Part of a sequence of levelling and dump deposits to the west of wall (305). Underlies demolition deposit (306) and overlies (309).	
311	<i>Layer</i>	Dark grey-brown silty sand with occasional pottery and rare charcoal/ One of many thin, almost laminated deposits, built up horizontally against and to the west of wall (305). This lens may be related to trampling activity. Underlies (309) and overlies (315).	
312	<i>Fill</i>	Dark brown-black silt forming the infill of drain (317). Mixed cassy deposit.	
313	<i>Fill</i>	Black cassy silt – very rich in organic matter. Fill of culvert (314).	
314	<i>Structure</i>	Drain and culvert structure. Aligned roughly NE-SW with vertical sides and a flat base. Brick-lined drain with plastered tile base. Drain runs into stone-lined culvert or soakaway under edge of trench. Remains of broken stones suggest capping and hence possible culvert.	
315	<i>Layer</i>	Demolition layer – one of a series of demolition layers on the western side of wall (305). This layer dips downwards to the east, Thick deposit with common peg tile and plaster and patches of mortar.	
316	<i>Layer</i>	Mid brown silty loam with common charcoal and mortar flecks. Silting soil build up against and to the east of wall (305).	
317	<i>Cut</i>	<b>Drain cut for drain / culvert (314). Linear, aligned roughly NW-SE with vertical sides and a flat base.</b>	
318	<i>layer</i>	Mid-brown sandy silt layer. Underlies layer (315). Silty build up over metallated surface (319) which it overlies	
319	<i>Surface</i>	Very fine metallated surface comprising small small subrounded flint pebbles. Possible internal floor or external yard contemporary with construction of wall (305).	
320	<i>Layer</i>	Mid yellow-brown clay. Compact redeposited natural laid down to seal (321) and to provide a base for metallated surface (319).	

321	Layer	Mid grey-brown silty layer below (320). Seems to form a series of laminated lenses (that were amalgamated into a single layer) of make-up for clay and overlying metal surface. Fairly loose and friable layer with common mortar fragments and oyster shell. Levelling ump or formation layer, Silver Elizabethan groat came from this layer.	0.11m thick
322	Layer	Mid grey silty clay fairly compact layer. Rare animal bone and flecks of charcoal. This is a soil horizon below wall (305) and formation layer (321). Pre-dates the construction of the building (of which wall (305) forms a part. Pottery dates to the 15 <sup>th</sup> century. May be an old plough soil.	0.18m thick

TRENCH 4 Lincoln's Inn Fields		Type:	Machine Excavated
Dimensions: 3.9m by 3.2m		Max. depth: 1.75m	Ground level: 19.02m aOD
context	Description	depth	
401	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of lawn forming part of the square. Dark brown well sorted loam. Few stones. Lots of modern finds.	0-0.32m
402	Layer	Mid brown sandy silt. Modern layer of made ground comprising large quantities of rubble. Lies fairly horizontally and probably represents a levelling layer prior to construction of lawn.	0.32-0.71m
403	Layer	Dark grey silty loam layer with moderate small gravels. Fairly clean deposit with small quantities of CBM, and occasional charcoal flecks. Levelling or make-up layer for lawn. Underlies (402).	0.71-0.78m
404	Layer	Dark grey-brown sandy clay with frequent stones and fragments of CBM. Rubble layer which may represent a post-medieval occupational dump layer. Underlies (403).	0.78-0.97m
405	Layer	Compact mid brown grey silty sand layer. Fairly clean layer with few small stones and small quantities of CBM. Underlies (404). Bedding or silting layer.	0.97-1.08m
406	Layer	Dark brown sandy silt with frequent stones and quantities of pottery, tile and demolition and occupation debris (animal bone, oyster shell). Large dump deposit sealing a series of post-holes and underlying (405).	1.08-1.24m
407	Layer	Mid grey fine silt. Fairly compact and level bedding layer which was cut by a series of three post-holes (410, 412, and 414).	0.10m thick
408	Layer	Brickearth deposit only visible at north-eastern corner of trench. Appears to overlie deposit 407 although relationship uncertain as both deposits are cut by pit (422).	-
409	Fill	Burnt yellow clay (and ?mortar) packing fill of post-hole [410].	0.12m deep
410	Cut	<b>Circular post-hole 0.3m in diameter and 0.12m deep. Steep straight sides and concave base. Post-hole with post-pipe (417) and packing (409) all burnt <i>in situ</i>.</b>	<b>0.12m deep</b>
411	Fill	Burnt yellow clay packing-fill of post-hole (412). Not excavated	-
412	Cut	<b>Small square post-hole, only 0.12m in size. Not excavated. Filled with post-pipe (418) and post-packing (411).</b>	-
413	Fill	Yellow burnt clay packing-fill of post-hole (414). Not excavated.	
414	Cut	<b>Cut for circular post-hole that has been burnt <i>in situ</i> and contains burnt post-pipe (419) and packing-fill (413). Measures 0.22m in diameter but not excavated.</b>	-
415	Fill	Light brown sandy silt with frequent small pebble inclusions. Dump fill – forms upper fill of quarry pit (422). Underlies and is sealed by (407).	0.18m thick
416	Fill	Dark brown silty clay with frequent sub-angular stones, broken tile and animal bone. Pottery suggests a medieval date. Dump fill of quarry pit (422). Underlies (415).	0.12m deep
417	Structure	<i>In situ</i> burnt timber post within post-hole (410).	0.12m deep
418	Structure	<i>In situ</i> burnt timber post within post-hole (412). Not excavated.	
419	Structure	<i>In situ</i> burnt timber post within post-hole (414). Not excavated.	



420	<i>Fill</i>	Dark brown silty loam with large quantities of material culture, including shell, CBM and tile. Material dumped from north tipping downwards into the southern part of pit (422). NB this must be quite a small, contained dump as it was not identified on the other side of this pit section. Lowest fill of pit (422), and underlies (421).	0.31m thick
421	<i>Fill</i>	Mid grey-brown silt. Dump deposit rich in finds including large quantities of CBM, chalk fragments and moderate pottery. Overlies (420) and underlies (416).	
422	<b>Cut</b>	<b>Cut of quarry pit cutting layer (408). Only part of this pit was revealed in this trench and so it is impossible to understand its true form and size. May be sub-circular, judging by extrapolation of the extent of the cut revealed. At least 3m in diameter and 0.55m deep. Moderate concave sides – base unknown.</b>	

<b>TRENCH 5 Lincoln's Inn Fields</b>			Type:	Machine Excavated
<b>Dimensions: 3m by 2.7m</b>		<b>Max. depth: 2.3m</b>	<b>Ground level: 19.35m aOD</b>	
<b>context</b>	<b>Description</b>		<b>depth</b>	
501	<i>Topsoil</i>	Current topsoil and turf of lawn making the central grass area of the square at Lincoln's Inn Fields.	0-0.20m	
502	<i>Layer</i>	Dark grey brown silty loam. Make up layer prior to establishment of lawn. Contains large quantities of rubble.	0.2-0.4m	
503	<i>Layer</i>	Orange silty rubble. Another make-up layer to build up soil height prior to creation of lawn.	0.4-0.55m	
504	<i>Layer</i>	Clinker layer with large quantities of soft and friable grey ash. Dumped fill deposit within bunker (506).	0.58m thick	
505	<i>Layer</i>	Redeposited brickearth with post-medieval tile. Dumped backfill within bunker (506).		
506	<i>Structure</i>	Part of a World war II bunker. Only a small part of this structure revealed, and geophysics indicates that it continues to the north, west and east. The bunker was located at a depth of 1.20m deep, and the length exposed was 1.5m by 1.5m. The trench was too unsafe and collapsing so recording could not be done from within the trench. The bunker was not bottomed because of safety issues and so its height is not known but it was filled with collapsed rubble. It was constructed of concrete (thickness of concrete 0.09m) The height of the arch of the bunker was 0.3m. The west face was cast in the ground with shuttering and the arches for the roof were pre-cast and dropped on to the roof. An electric cable was visible near the ceiling in the south-west corner of the bunker, to provide electricity and a phone cable into the bunker. Iron brackets on the west face possibly indicate steps into the bunker. Below these brackets a V-shaped scar possibly indicating light fittings. A lead water pipe was noted in the north-west corner.	0.25m high	

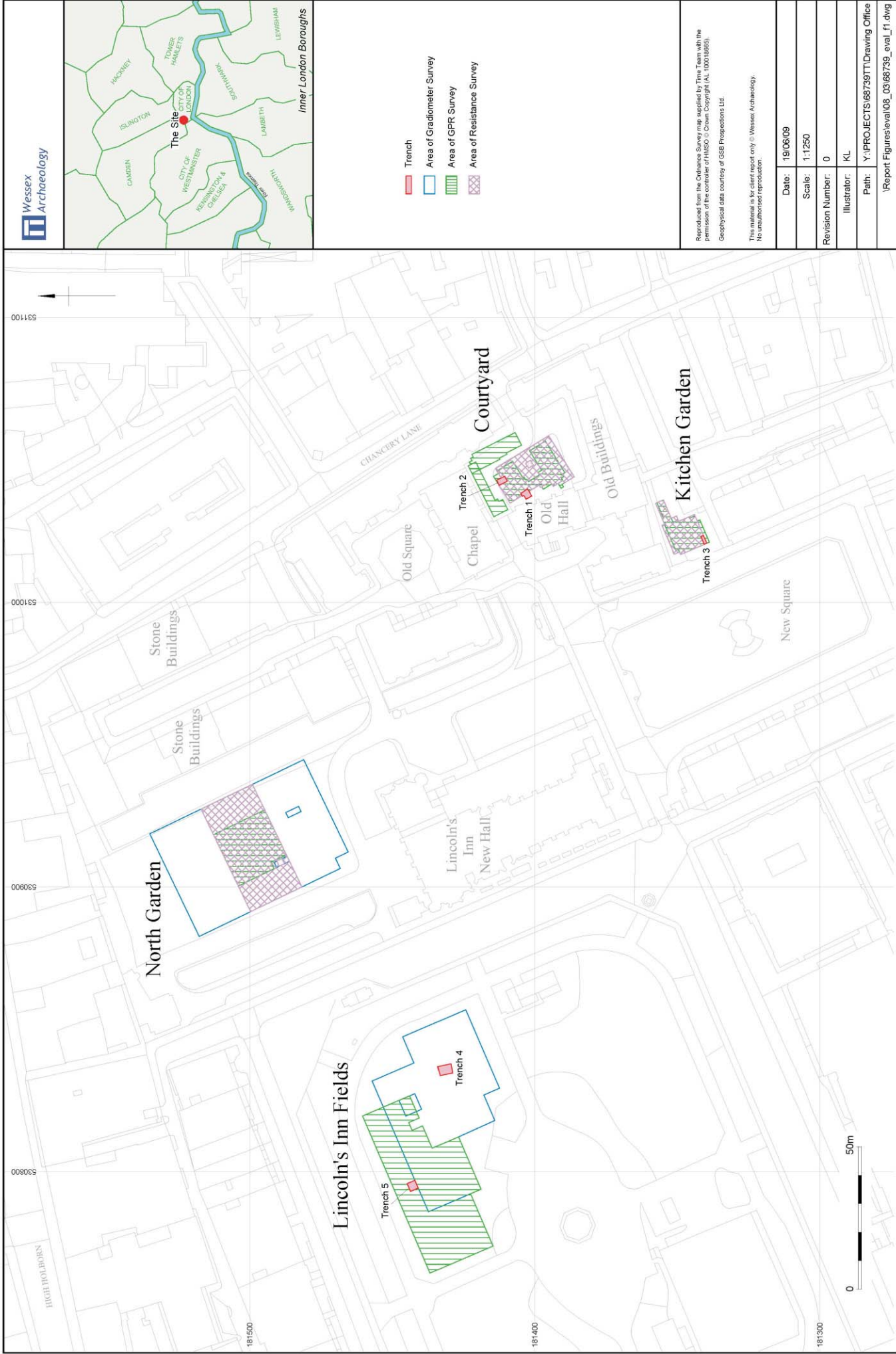


Figure 1



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- Trench
- Area of Gradiometer Survey
- Area of Resistance Survey



Plate 1: Trench 1 showing Victorian walls and drains (view from north-west)



Plate 2: Trench 2 showing cobbled surface 204 and pits 205 and 207 (view from south-east)



Plate 3: Trench 3 showing wall 305 (view from south-west)

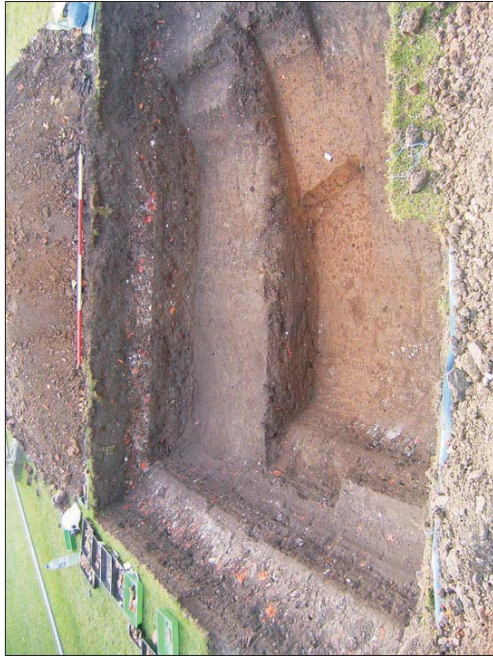


Plate 4: East facing section of Trench 4 (view from east)

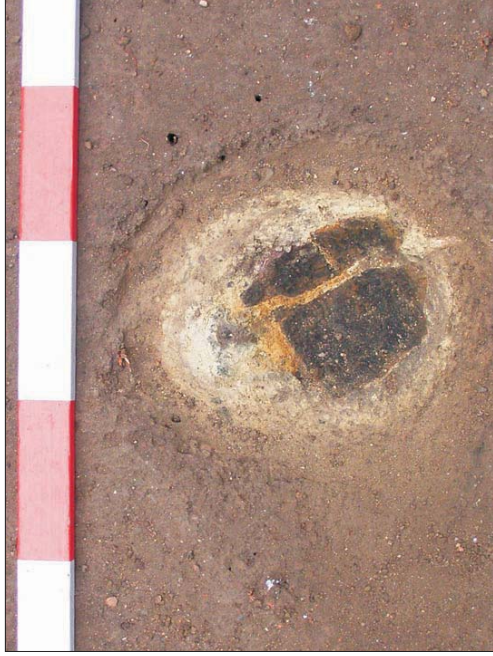
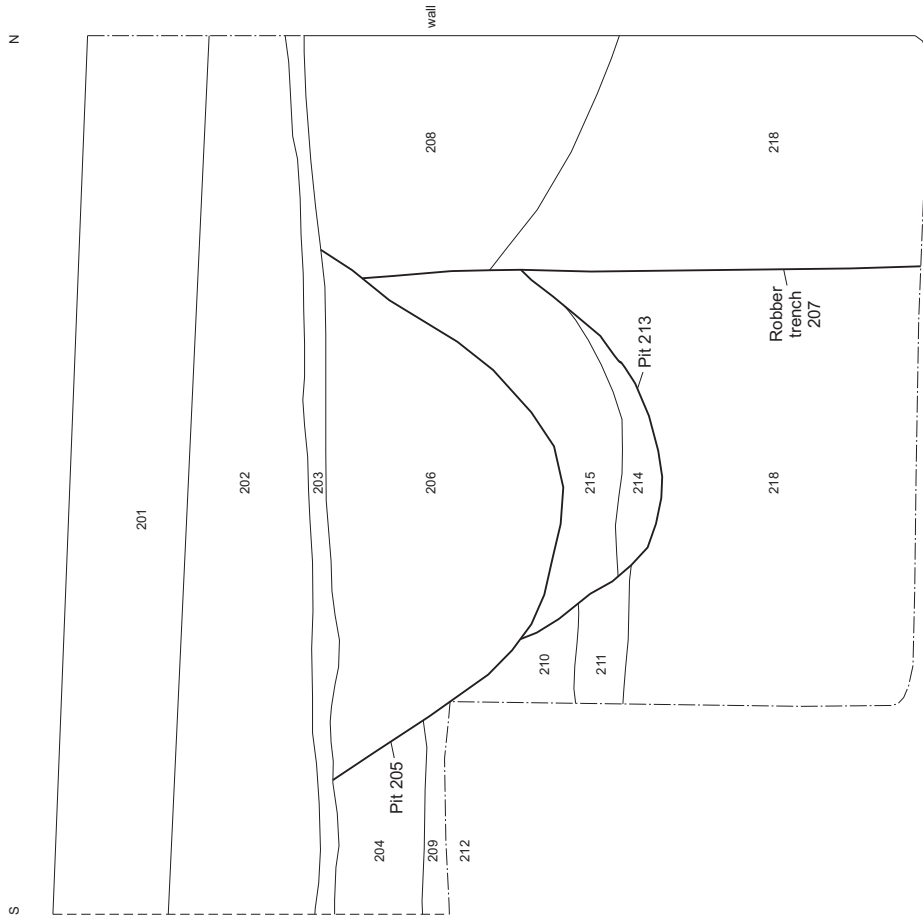


Plate 5: Burnt inpost-hole 410 in Trench 4 (view from north)

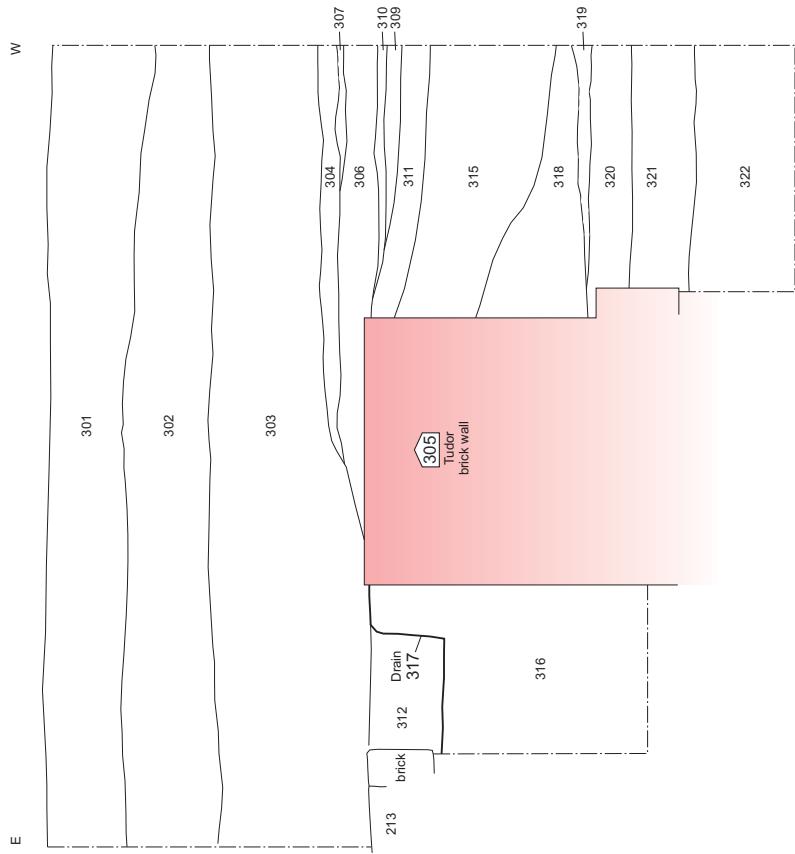


Plate 6: Air raid shelter in Trench 5 (view from north)

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Trench 2 east-facing section



Trench 3 north-facing section

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